



HR0086 Enrolled

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HOUSE RESOLUTION 86

2 WHEREAS, April 6, 2011, marks the 691st anniversary of the
3 signing of the Declaration of Arbroath in 1320, in which
4 Scotland declared its independence from England; the
5 Declaration of Arbroath is one of the precursors of the United
6 States Declaration of Independence; and

7 WHEREAS, Almost half of the 56 signers of the Declaration
8 of Independence and 9 of the Governors of the original 13
9 colonies were of Scottish descent; and

10 WHEREAS, More than 11 million Americans can trace their
11 roots back to Scotland; and

12 WHEREAS, Illinois is home to various festivals and games
13 featuring Scottish culture that are held annually across the
14 State; and

15 WHEREAS, Established in 1845, the Illinois Saint Andrews
16 Society is the oldest charitable organization in Illinois;
17 their motto is: nourishing Scottish identity through service,
18 fellowship, and the celebration of Scottish culture; their
19 principal charity is the Scottish Home, a nursing home that the
20 Society built in 1910 and has supported for 100 years; the
21 Society also provides scholarships to bright, talented young

1 students and hosts events to help families learn about Scottish
2 culture, art, music, dance, and literature, including the
3 Scottish Festival and Highland Games; and

4 WHEREAS, The Scottish cultural identity reflects
5 individualism, a strong work ethic, family loyalty,
6 patriotism, and faith in God; and

7 WHEREAS, Citizens of both the State of Illinois and
8 Scotland are first in the defense of rights and freedom; and

9 WHEREAS, The Scottish people, with their self-reliance and
10 unbending spirit, helped to shape the unmistakable character of
11 their country and the State of Illinois; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
13 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
14 we commend the more than 200 organizations throughout the
15 United States that honor Scottish heritage, tradition, and
16 culture, representing the hundreds of thousands of Americans of
17 Scottish descent, residing in every state, who have already
18 made the observance of National Tartan Day on April 6 a
19 success; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That we proclaim April of 2011 and April of 2012
21 as Scottish Heritage Month in the State of Illinois.